Feedback Questionnaire Report

This document provides feedback on this year's Public Forum compiled from the 169 questionnaires that were collected. The Annex provides charts compiling the results of the main questions included in the questionnaire.

- 25% of the questionnaires were filled out by NGO representatives; 16% by academic actors; and 13% by staff from other inter-governmental organizations as well as government officials.
- People heard about the 2008 WTO Forum through numerous ways. Most of them (35%) found out about it through the WTO website, but a fair amount (30%) came because it had been recommended to them by a friend or a colleague. 25% found out about it through an advert in a publication.
- Half of the people had never participated in a WTO Forum before and almost 30% had attended only once or twice in the past.
- The two main reasons why people decided to come to the Forum were interest in the overall theme (33%) and interest in a particular session (18%). Other reasons for attending were networking opportunities, past experience in WTO Public Fora and reputation of the WTO Forum. 14% came because they were sent by their organization and 8% because they were invited as a speaker or moderator.
- More than 50% of the participants attended 5 to 7 sessions. 25% attended 2 to 4 sessions and 20% attended two or less.
- 37% of the respondents indicated that they could not attend all the sessions that interested them. Most participants favoured fewer parallel sessions in the future.
- 63% of the participants indicated that the duration of the forum was "just right", while only 28% thought it was too short. When asked if the Forum should be extended to 3 days with less parallel sessions, 63% answered yes and 25% no.
- 55% of respondents said that sessions met their expectations, while 39% said "mainly".
- The majority of respondents rated the online registration process highly (90%).
- 76% of respondents were satisfied or highly satisfied with the content of the program.
- 72% of respondents found the sessions to be relevant or highly relevant to their interests.
- 88% of respondents gave a score of 4 or 5 on a scale of 1 – 5 for overall organization.
- The majority of respondents were satisfied or highly satisfied overall (82%).

Comments provided by participants

Main recommendations for next year's Forum:
- Organize the programme according to time, rather than by room
- Make the overall theme of the Forum more specific
- Improve the diversity and balance of speakers on all panels
- Plan fewer overlapping sessions
- Plan for more time for discussion with the audience
- Include the affiliation of participants on the name badge

Suggested Topics for next year's Public Forum in order of popularity:
- DDA negotiations: drafts, proposals and solutions
- Decent work, labor standards, human rights
- Regional integration, regionalism and relations to multilateral trade
- Development
- Trade and environment, Climate Change, MEAs and WTO role in post-Kyoto
- Trade and energy
- Intellectual property, technology transfer
- Dispute settlement
- Economic migration
- Services
- LDCs, problems facing the multilateral trading system, solutions and recommendations
- Emerging markets
Annex

Of the 169 completed questionnaires collected, 25% were filled out by NGO representatives, 16% by academic actors, and 13% by staff from other inter-governmental organizations and government officials (see chart 1).

Chart 1

What is your occupation?

85% of those who filled out a questionnaire attended the forum as participants, 4% as organizers and 9% as both (see chart 2).

Chart 2

Did you come at the WTO Public Forum as:

34% of respondents found out about the Public Forum through the WTO website, 28% through a friend or colleague and 21% through previous participation (see chart 3).
The main reasons participants chose to attend the forum were interest in the overall theme and interest in a particular session, as well as being sent by an organization or being invited as a speaker. Networking opportunities as well as the reputation of the forum were also identified as motives to attend the forum (see chart 4).

50% of respondents noted that this was the first WTO Public Forum they attended. 28% had attended at least once before, 14% has participated in 3 to 4 previous public fora and only 8% have participated in 5 Public Fora (see chart 5).
52% of the participants attended 5 to 7 sessions. 25% attended 2 to 4 sessions and 20% attended two or less (See chart 6).

37% of the respondents indicated that they could not attend all the sessions that interested them. Almost 40% noted that they were mainly able to attend all the sessions of their interest and 23% managed to attend all the sessions that interested them (See chart 7)
55% of respondents stated that the session(s) they attended met their expectations; 39% noted that their expectations were partly met and 5% felt that their expectations had not been met (see chart 8).

The duration of the Public Forum was rated “just right” by 63% of the participants, “too short” according to 28% and 6% provided no answer (see chart 9).
64% of the participants would rather have the Forum extended to 3 days with fewer parallel sessions in the future; 25% prefer not to extend the duration of the forum and 11% stated no preference (see chart 10).
Respondents were asked to give the Public Forum a score on a scale of 1 – 5 (where 1 is low and 5 is high) on five questions. The overwhelming majority of ratings were 4 or 5. (See charts 11-15).

**Chart 11**

**How do you rate the online registration process?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating on scale of 1 - 5</th>
<th>Number of Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Chart 12**

**How do you rate the content of the programme?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating on scale of 1 - 5</th>
<th>Number of Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chart 13

How do you rate the relevance of the sessions to your interest?

Rating on scale of 1 - 5

Chart 14

How do you rate the overall organization of the Public Forum 2008?

Rating on scale of 1 - 5

Chart 15

How would you rate your overall satisfaction with the Public Forum 2008?

Rating on scale of 1 - 5
Organizers and Participants Feedback Questionnaire

Thank you for completing this questionnaire and putting it in one of the ballot boxes located in the meeting rooms or at the Control and Identification Office when you return your badge.

Name...................................................................................
Organization........................................................................
Position................................................................................

1. What is your occupation?
   □ NGO Representative
   □ International Organization Representative
   □ Government Official
   □ Parliamentarian
   □ Lawyer
   □ Business Representative
   □ Journalist
   □ Academic
   □ Student (University)
   □ Student (High School)
   □ Other

2. Did you come to the 2008 WTO Public Forum as:
   □ A participant
   □ An organizer
   □ Both

3. How did you hear about the WTO Public Forum?
   □ WTO website
   □ Recommended by a friend/colleague
   □ Advert in a publication
   □ Previous participation
   □ Other

4. Which is the main reason you chose to attend the 2008 WTO Public Forum?
   □ Interest in the overall theme
   □ Interest in a particular session
   □ Invited as a Speaker/Moderator
   □ Organizer of a session
   □ Sent by my organization
   □ Reputation of the WTO Public Forum
   □ Networking opportunities
   □ Previous experience of a WTO Public Forum
   □ Other

5. How many WTO Public Fora have you attended in the past?
   □ None □ 1-2 □ 3-4 □ 5-7

6. How many sessions did you attend at the 2008 WTO Public Forum?
   □ 1-2 □ 2-4 □ 5-7

7. Which session(s) did you attend?
   □ Inaugural Session □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 □
   □ 6 □ 7 □ 8 □ 9 □ 10 □ 11 □ 12 □ 13 □ 14 □ 15 □
   □ 16 □ 17 □ 18 □ 19 □ 20 □ 21 □ 22 □ 23 □ 24 □ 25 □
   □ 26 □ 27 □ 28 □ 29 □ 30 □ 31 □ 32 □ 33 □ 34 □ 35 □
   □ 36 □ 37 □ 38 □ 39 □ 40 □ 41 □ 42 □

8. Did the session(s) you attended meet your expectations?
   □ Yes □ Partly □ No

9. Could you attend all the sessions you were interested in?
   □ Yes □ Mainly □ No

10. Rate the duration of the Public Forum?
    □ Too long □ Too short □ Just right

11. In the future, would you rather have the Forum extended to 3 days with fewer parallel sessions?
    □ Yes □ No □ No preference

12. If you organized a session, were you satisfied with the organization process?
    □ Yes □ Partly □ No

13. How did you rate the overall 2008 WTO Public Forum? (Scale of 1-5 where one is low and 5 is high)
    □ On-line registration 1 2 3 4 5
    □ Content of the programme 1 2 3 4 5
    □ Relevance of the sessions to your interest 1 2 3 4 5
    □ Overall organization 1 2 3 4 5
    □ Overall satisfaction 1 2 3 4 5

14. Do you have any other comments/suggestions regarding the WTO Public Forum?
    .......................................................................................
    .......................................................................................
    .......................................................................................

15. Which topics do you think should be covered in future WTO Public Fora?
    .......................................................................................
    .......................................................................................
    .......................................................................................

Thank you for your feedback, it will help us improve next years’ forum.